THE PUNISHER

"This is the most exciting the Punisher has been in a long while."

– All-Comic

ROSENBERG
LANDINI
VILANOVA
LOUGHRIDGE

WAR MACHINE

MARVEL

FRANK CASTLE WAS A DECORATED MARINE, AN UPSTANDING CITIZEN AND A FAMILY MAN. THEN HIS FAMILY WAS TAKEN FROM HIM WHEN THEY WERE ACCIDENTALLY KILLED IN A BRUTAL MOB HIT. FROM THAT DAY, HE BECAME A FORCE OF COLD, CALCULATED RETRIBUTION AND VIGILANTISM. FRANK CASTLE DIED WITH HIS FAMILY. NOW, **THERE IS ONLY...**

THE PUNISHER

WAR MACHINE

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THE PUNISHER HAS BEEN BRANDED A GLOBAL TERRORIST. AFTER A VIOLENT MILITARY REGIME TOOK OVER THE SMALL COUNTRY OF CHERNAYA AND ENSLAVED ITS PEOPLE, NICK FURY RECRUITED FRANK TO KILL THE CORRUPT ORCHESTRATORS OF THE COUP (SOME OF WHOM WERE EX-S.H.I.E.L.D.). FURY EVEN LENT HIM THE WAR MACHINE ARMOR TO ENSURE HIS SUCCESS, BUT IT ALL WENT TO HELL WHEN FRANK IGNORED FURY'S DIRECTIVES TO STAND DOWN, ALMOST STARTED A NUCLEAR WAR AND SUBVERTED FURY'S PLANS TO EITHER TAKE BACK OR DESTROY THE ARMOR ONCE THE MISSION WAS COMPLETE.
NOW, FRANK IS ARMORED UP AND BACK IN NEW YORK CITY –
AND NEW YORK'S HEROES ARE NOT HAPPY.

THE BAR WITH NO NAME.

SLOW NIGHT, EH?

YEAH. BEEN THIS WAY SINCE PEOPLE STARTED SAYING *HE* WAS BACK.

IDIOTS. HE DOESN'T HAVE THE STONES TO COME DOWN HERE AND--

CREEEEAK

YO! WHAT THE @$#%--

EVERYONE STAND YOUR GROUND! HE CAN'T TAKE US ALL! LET'S SHOW--

AHHH!!!

FWOOSH

I'M GONNA RIP OUT HIS THROAT WITH MY TEETH.

DON'T GO OUT THERE, STEEL-JAW...

GRRRAAAHHH!!!

RUH?

BLAM

HEY, MAN... ÷COUGH÷ I JUST WANTED A DRINK... YOU CAN'T--

WE CLEAR?

NEGATIVE.

SPLUNCH

THERE IS ONE REMAINING LIFE-FORM IN THE ROOM.

CRRNNNCH

P-PLEASE. I JUST SERVE THEM D-DRINKS. IT'S NOT A CRIME!

WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?

WHAT OTHERS?

THE BIG GUYS.

BANG

IT'S HIM! HE'S COMING!

GOOD.

HE'S GOT THAT ARMOR, BULLSEYE. WE'RE TRAPPED. HE'LL KILL US ALL.

NOT ME!

EVERYONE GET IN MY CAR.

YOU DRIVE A *DELIVERY VAN*, GRIZZLY?

WHAT? I'M BIG.

HURRY UP!

GO! GO! GO!

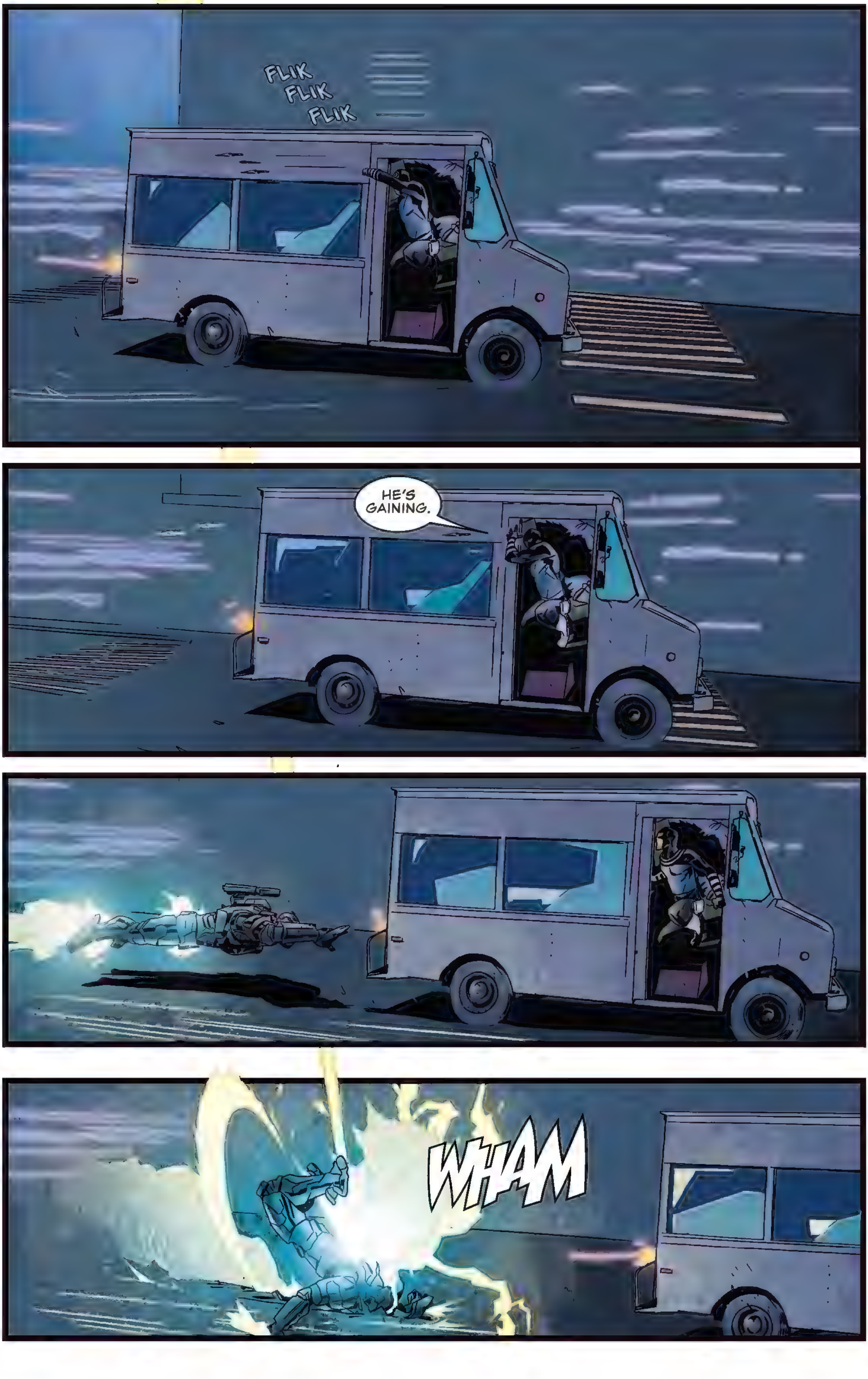
WE'RE TOO HEAVY! IT'S SLOWING US DOWN.

WHAT? I'M THE SMALLEST GUY IN HERE.

OOOF!

I WON'T FORGET THIS, YOU COWARDLY--

I WOULDN'T COUNT ON GETTING THAT MONEY SCOURGE OWES YOU ANYTIME SOON, MARKO.


FLIK
FLIK
FLIK
HE'S GAINING.
WHAM

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?

SOMETHING HIT US.

THANKS.

TAKE OFF THAT @$%# SUIT.

GOOD JOB. YOU JUST HELPED FOUR WANTED CRIMINALS ESCAPE.

DO YOU THINK THIS IS A CONVERSATION? IT ISN'T.

GET OUT OF HIS SUIT OR I TAKE YOU OUT OF IT.

YOU KNOW I CAN'T DO THAT.

I WAS HOPING YOU'D SAY THAT.

CHOOOM

I KNOW YOUR CROWD LOVES THE WHOLE "GOOD GUY VERSUS GOOD GUY" THING, BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.

YOU ACTUALLY JUST ANSWERED A QUESTION I'VE ALWAYS HAD ABOUT YOU.

ARMOR, THE LADY CAN TAKE A LOT OF DAMAGE, BUT WE AREN'T TRYING TO KILL HER HERE.

UNDERSTOOD.

YOU ACTUALLY THINK YOU'RE ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS, HUH?

SUSTAINING DAMAGE. WITHDRAWAL RECOMMENDED.

AGREED.

CAPTAIN MARVEL IS IN PURSUIT.

SHE REALLY WANTS A FIGHT, HUH? OKAY. LET'S GO.

THIS IS BAD.

LEAVING THE COUNTRY WAS THE FIRST SMART THING YOU'VE EVER DONE, CASTLE. BUT THEN YOU HAD TO GO AND BE YOU AGAIN AND COME BACK.

I WAS CLEANING UP THIS CITY WHILE YOU WERE STILL JOYRIDING IN FLIGHT SIMULATORS, DANVERS. I'M NOT STOPPING BECAUSE YOU DON'T LIKE ME PLAYING WITH YOUR DEAD BOYFRIEND'S TOYS.

REAL RIGHTEOUS. WERE YOU THIS RIGHTEOUS WHEN YOU WERE MURDERING PEOPLE FOR HYDRA?

YOU THINK WE'D ALL *FORGET?* WHEN THE FASCISTS TOOK OVER, SOME OF US FOUGHT FOR THE PLANET, SOME OF US FOUGHT THEM IN THE STREETS...

BUT YOU... YOU COULDN'T FALL IN LINE BEHIND THEM QUICK ENOUGH, YOU %$#& TRAITOR.

NO ANSWER, CASTLE?!

FWOOOSH

HERE'S MY ANSWER.

KOOPOW

CRASH

BOOM

IS SHE DOWN?

NEGATIVE. CAPTAIN MARVEL IS GETTING UP.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE WE CAN THROW AT HER.

BOOSTERS ARE OPERATIONAL IF YOU'D LIKE TO WITHDRAW.

SHE CAN SEE US IN THE AIR AND SHE'S FASTER THAN WE ARE.

NO. WE'LL HUNKER DOWN FOR A BIT AND SEE IF SHE GETS BORED AND LEAVES.

HELLO, FRANK.

THERE'S A LOT OF ANGRY PEOPLE LOOKING FOR YOU.

ALWAYS ARE.

NO, THIS TIME IT'S DIFFERENT, FRANK. THE SUIT...WHAT IT MEANS. WHAT YOU DID IN CHERNAYA. HYDRA. YOU'RE CROSSING LINES YOU'VE NEVER CROSSED BEFORE.

I GOT NEW OPPORTUNITIES. I TOOK THEM.

THAT'S IT?! THAT'S YOUR ANSWER? THAT YOU'D ALWAYS HAVE BEEN ASSASSINATING WORLD LEADERS AND STEALING FROM FALLEN HEROES IF YOU COULD?

PRETTY MUCH.

THAT'S A LOAD OF CRAP. YOU WORKED FOR HYDRA, FRANK. *HYDRA*. MAYBE THEY TRICKED YOU OR OFFERED YOU SOMETHING YOU NEEDED, BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE IT. YOU BACKED THE BAD GUYS.

THAT'S NOT SOMETHING WE CAN JUST MOVE PAST. EVEN BY YOUR CRAZY %$!@ RULE BOOK THAT HAS TO HAVE CONSEQUENCES. RIGHT?

CAPTAIN MARVEL HAS LEFT THE VICINITY HEADED NORTHWEST.

THANKS FOR THE SERMON, DAREDEVIL. GOTTA GO.

I CAN'T LET YOU WALK, FRANK.

YOU DON'T WANT TO DO THIS, BOY SCOUT.

YES, I DO.

YOU DON'T GET IT. WE'RE NOT IN THE SAME LEAGUE ANYMORE.

YOU'VE NEVER BEEN IN MY LEAGUE, CASTLE.

BLAM

THIS ISN'T...OVER... CASTLE.

YES, IT IS.

DOES NOBODY HAVE EYES ON HIM?

I'VE GOT HIM.

TAKE THE SHOT!

ANYONE EVER TELL YOU YOU'RE REALLY ANNOYING, FURY?

NOT TO MY FACE, HAWKEYE.

OH. DAMN. THEY TELL ME THAT TO MY FACE ALL THE TIME.

THUNK

"DID YOU HIT HIM?"

ARE YOU KIDDING ME RIGHT NOW? OF COURSE I--

PIZZA

DAMMIT!

BAM

BAM

BAM

%#$! OFF, BARTON.

OH, SON OF A...HE TOOK MY PIZZA.

WHEN YOU FIND HIM, YOU KICK HIS ASS FOR ME, FURY.

RUN A SCAN OF--

NO LIFE SIGNS DETECTED IN THE VICINITY.

I SUGGEST IMMEDIATE HYDRATION AND MEDICAL ATTENTION FOR THE INJURIES CAPTAIN MARVEL INFLICTED.

I'M FINE.

ACTUALLY, DIAGNOSTICS SHOW YOU RECEIVED--

HOW'D THAT IDIOT GET AN ARROW STUCK IN YOU?

HE EXPLOITED A SMALL SEAM IN THE R2 REAR PLATING.

MY SUPPOSITION IS THAT AGENT BARTON STUDIED MY DESIGN WHEN I WAS IN USE UNDER COLONEL RHODES AND MR. STARK.

YEAH? IF HE'S SO SMART, WHY DIDN'T...

ARMOR, RUN FULL SELF-DIAGNOSTICS.

THE ARROW APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A TROJAN HORSE MECHANISM. DIAGNOSTICS DISCOVERED TRACES OF A NANITE TRACKING CLUSTER.

THEY KNOW WHERE WE ARE.

WELL, @#$%...

"...I WAS JUST STARTING TO LIKE THIS PLACE."

REMEMBER, FRANK CASTLE PUTS PEOPLE IN THE GROUND WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT.

WE'RE DONE BEING NICE.

A PUNISHER SAFE HOUSE.

ARMOR, RECORD THIS MAP.

IMAGE RECORDED.

FRANK CASTLE! GET OUT HERE!

GRNGH

ON MY WAY.

FWOOSH

YOU COME OUT HERE TO SURRENDER?

NO.

GOOD.

BANG

THIS IS A FIGHT YOU CAN'T WIN, CASTLE!

BEEN HEARING THAT FOR YEARS.

POP

AGGH!

SMASH

OKAY, CRAZY MAN FIRING MISSILES ON CITY STREETS. TIME TO COOL OUT.

OR NOT...

OOH, THIS IS GONNA HURT.

CLAAANG

OOF!

NOPE. DON'T DO THAT. BAD IDEA.

WATCH--

UGGH!

EASY NOW, BIG BOY. LET ME TAKE THIS MASK OFF.

RRAAAOW!

OKAY, @#$%. YOU'RE DONE.

RRRRMMMMMBBBLLLLE

GOOD JOB, QUAKE.

OH, @#!$.

FWOOOSH

YOU'RE RIGHT. I AM DONE WITH ALL THIS.

WHOA! I CAN'T LET YOU LEAVE HERE, PAL.

I DON'T THINK YOU CAN STOP ME, FALCON.

NO, MAYBE I CAN'T...

...BUT CANNONBALL CAN.

SKKK

THERE IS HONOR IN A MAN WHO WOULD FIGHT TO THE DEATH FOR EVEN THE SMALLEST CHANCE OF VICTORY.

BUT THIS, MY SAD MORTAL FRIEND, IS FOOLHARDY.

NOBODY ASKED YOU, LOINCLOTH.

BOOM

YA DONE?

OOF!

QUIT SQUIRMIN' OR I'LL SQUEEZE YA OUTTA THIS TIN CAN LIKE POPEYE.

RATATATATAT

CLANK

YOU GONNA MAKE US TAKE YOU APART PIECE BY PIECE, CASTLE?

RRAAH!

GET HIM OFFA ME!

AYE, HE IS A MAD DOG!

BOOM

YOUR WEAPONS AIN'T DOING ANYTHING, MAN. DON'T YOU KNOW WHEN TO QUIT?

NO.

FWAASH

NEITHER DO I.

WHAM

CRASHES

THERMAL IMAGING TELLS US THERE IS NO ONE AROUND FOR HALF A MILE, BUT I STILL DON'T WANT HIM GETTING ANY MORE SHOTS OFF OUT HERE.

FLYERS IN THE AIR, WATCH FOR ANY EXIT. BEN, LUKE, HERC, GO IN THE FRONT.

EVERYONE ELSE, CIRCLE THE--

HRRR

SIX MINUTES LATER.

THINE INSECT ALLY IS FOUND... MAYHAPS EVEN BREATHING.

DID I WIN?

NO.

WAS IT CLOSE?

CAROL! WE FOUND SOMETHING.

WHAT AM I LOOKING AT?

MUST BE WHERE HE WENT. IT'S AN ACCESS HATCH FOR THE SUBWAY TUNNELS.

"HE COULD BE ANYWHERE BY NOW."

THE BRONX.

BOOM

HE'S STAYING ONE STEP AHEAD OF US. WE NEED TO SPREAD OUT SO WE CAN REACT FASTER.

JERSEY CITY.

WAKE UP, $#%@.

WHICH ONE OF YOU MADE THAT?

W-WE JUST BOUGHT IT FROM SOME GUY.

I S-SWEAR.

HOW FAMILIAR ARE YOU WITH THE ENGINEERING IN THOSE HI-TECH WEAPONS YOU PEDDLE?

LOOKS LIKE WE JUST MISSED HIM.

HE *WAS* HERE. SEND THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. AND THE CORONER.

OKAY. WHICH ONE OF YOU MAKES YOUR...OH. NEVER MIND.

HE KNOWS WE'RE TRACKING HIM.

THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT.

RATATATATATATAT

@$%# NINJAS.

HE WAS HERE BUT HE LEFT. I THINK HE KNOWS WE'RE ON HIS TAIL.

WHY?

HARLEM.

HE ONLY DRANK, LIKE, HALF HIS SHAKE.

I'M LOOKING FOR THE TINKERER.

SCREW YOU, BOOTLEG IRON MAN.

STATEN ISLAND.

THIS GUY IS TOAST. HOW IS HE SO FAST?

LONG ISLAND CITY.

WE CAN TAKE HIM.

IT'S THE PUNISHER, MAN. WE GOTTA RUN FOR IT.

I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO IS GOOD WITH TECHNOLOGY.

IF YOU COME ONE STEP CLOSER, I'LL KILL YOU.

DUDE! HE'S GONNA KILL US!

HE WAS GONNA DO THAT ANYWAY.

ON THREE. ONE... TWO...

THREE!

WHERE'D HE GO?!

HE RAN. I TOLD YOU HE WAS CHICKEN $%#&.

AHEM!

BROOKLYN.

ALL RIGHT, I'M LOOKING FOR--

PORRRP

ARMOR, WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?

GUESS.

ANALYSIS INCONCLUSIVE.

WE WERE HIT WITH SOME SORT OF REVERSED IONIZATION BOSON PARTICLE CANNON.

WHO MAKES THAT?

OUR RECORDS INDICATE THAT WEAPON IS STILL HYPOTHETICAL.

PERFECT.

RUN FOR YOUR--->

DON'T SHOOT! DON'T SHOOT!

WE ALL JUST STARTED WORKING HERE LAST MONTH.

THEY RECRUITED US RIGHT OUT OF COLLEGE. STUDENT LOANS, MAN, YOU KNOW HOW--

BLAM

THIS A.I.M. SPLINTER CELL YOU'RE PART OF IS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.

YOU'RE TERRORISTS.

NOW, WHAT DID YOU GO TO SCHOOL FOR?

I... MAJORED IN MARINE BIOLOGY.

BLAM

NEXT.

OH, GOD. UH... ACCOUNTING.

BLAM

NEXT.

PLEASE... I STUDIED CREATIVE WRITING AT--

BLAM

NEXT.

ADVANCED ROBOTICS ENGINEERING. GO AHEAD AND KILL ME, YOU SICK M--

PERFECT. LET'S GO. THEY'LL BE HERE SOON.

SIX HOURS LATER.

HOW MUCH LONGER?

A-A-ALMOST D-D-DONE.

I G-GOT THE NANOBOT TRACKING SH-SHUT DOWN.

THAT'S GOOD. BECAUSE IF YOU DIDN'T, I'D MAKE SURE TO RIP YOUR THROAT OUT AS SOON AS THEY SHOWED UP.

S-SOME OF THE NANOBOTS M-MIGHT STILL W-WORK. I CAN'T G-GET THEM ALL.

TRY HARDER.

IT W-WILL BE HARD FOR THEM TO TRACE SO F-FEW. BUT I-IT WOULD BE EASIER I-IF I H-HAD A R-REAL LAB...

...INSTEAD OF THE F-F-FREEZER OF A F-FAST-FOOD J-JOINT.

THE NEW YORK CITY REAL ESTATE MARKET IS VERY COMPETITIVE. LABS ARE HARD TO GET. CONDEMNED RESTAURANTS ARE NOT.

DID YOU DO THE OTHER PART?

Y-YES... IT'S IN YOUR A-ARMOR'S GPS.

BROOKLYN.

YES, I'M SURE. WE HAD A VERY FAINT SIGNAL AT THAT LOCATION AND THEN WE LOST IT. HE WAS THERE.

NO SIGN OF CASTLE OR THE ARMOR. JUST A GROSS OLD FAST-FOOD SPOT.

CHECK THE FREEZER. HE MIGHT HAVE USED THAT TO INTERFERE WITH OUR TRACKING.

HANG ON...

OH, MAN, THERE'S A BODY BACK HERE. LOOKS LIKE A.I.M. BUT IT'S JUST A KID...

DAMMIT, FRANK. IF YOU--

THUNK

SHRRRICKK

FURY? EVERYTHING OKAY?

SAM, I'LL CALL YOU BACK.

I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D FIND ME.

I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D MAKE ME HAVE TO.

YOU KNOW THEY'RE PROBABLY ALREADY ON THEIR WAY.

THEN WE'LL BE QUICK.

STOP CHASING ME.

YOU KNOW I CAN'T DO THAT, FRANK.

OOOF!

YOU BROUGHT ME TO THE *FREEDOM TOWER?* IS THIS A METAPHOR, FRANK? BECAUSE I WAS NEVER BIG ON CREATIVE WRITING.

ME NEITHER.

I CAN'T STOP COMING FOR YOU. AND EVEN IF I COULD, *THEY* WOULDN'T. THERE ARE LINES YOU DON'T CROSS AND YOU CROSSED AROUND 100 OF THEM. YOU KILLED A WORLD LEADER.

AT YOUR REQUEST.

AND NOW WE'RE BOTH DEALING WITH THE $@#% CONSEQUENCES, AREN'T WE?

EVEN IF I COULD MAKE THEM FORGET WHAT YOU DID, AS FAR AS THEY'RE CONCERNED YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE OUT THERE KILLING MUGGERS WHILE DRESSED AS THEIR DEAD FRIEND...

YOU'RE A PROBLEM THEY CAN'T IGNORE ANYMORE.

I GOT MORE SCUM OFF THE STREETS TODAY THAN THESE CLOWNS WILL DO IN THEIR WHOLE CAREERS.

YEAH. AND YOU TURNED NEW YORK INTO A WAR ZONE.

YOU REMEMBER THE SUPER HERO REGISTRATION ACT, RIGHT?

REMEMBER WHAT STARTED THAT? A BUNCH OF GUYS I'D TRUST A LOT MORE THAN I TRUST YOU BLEW UP A SCHOOL.

THEY WERE--

A SCHOOL, FRANK.

HOW LONG UNTIL YOU ACCIDENTALLY DO THAT? FIRING MISSILES ALL OVER THE PLACE.

NOT TO MENTION YOU'RE DOING IT DRESSED AS CAROL'S DEAD BOYFRIEND. SHE WON'T STOP UNTIL SHE PEELS YOUR PASTY-WHITE ASS OUT OF HIS SUIT HERSELF.

AGAIN, THAT'S ON YOU.

AND AGAIN, I %#$@ KNOW THAT.

I MAKE SKETCHY CALLS ALL THE TIME. I WORK IN THE GRAY TO KEEP PEOPLE ALIVE. I DO IT IN SECRET SO THEY DON'T KNOW, AND I SLEEP FINE AT NIGHT BECAUSE OF THAT.

BUT HERE YOU COME, MY LATEST SKETCHY CALL, FLYING DOWN BROADWAY SHOOTING AT HOOKERS AT RUSH HOUR. AND THEY CAN'T LET THAT GO. NEITHER CAN I. YOU DIDN'T GIVE US A CHOICE.

PEOPLE USED TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY WITH YOU BECAUSE THEY COULD.

THAT'S THE LUXURY OF BEING JUST A CRAZY GUY WITH A GUN IN A WORLD OF SUPER HEROES.

BUT NOW WITH THE ARMOR I CAN...

%$#@ THE ARMOR. %$#@ IT... ARE YOU FORGETTING WHAT YOU DID?!

YOU JOINED HYDRA, YOU $%@&. THERE'S NO GRAY ON THIS.

NOBODY WANTS TO SEE YOU GET THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT. YOU'RE THE BAD GUY.

THEY WANT TO SEE *YOU* GET PUNISHED.

IF THE SHOE WERE ON THE OTHER FOOT, YOU'D HAVE ALREADY PUT A BULLET IN MY HEAD AND YOU KNOW IT.

I WANT TO FIX IT.

THEN TURN YOURSELF IN OR LET THEM KILL YOU...

"...BECAUSE YOU CAN'T GET TO THEM. I DON'T KNOW WHERE BARON ZEMO OR THE REST OF THE HYDRA GUYS WENT, FRANK.

"AND THE ONLY GUYS WHO MIGHT KNOW WHERE THEY COULD BE SURE AS HELL AREN'T GONNA TALK TO YOU."

"WE'LL SEE."

C.I.A.
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

C.I.A. HEADQUARTERS.

YES! I'M $#!@*%& SURE IT'S HIM!

SIR, WE'RE TRYING!

BUT WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING HERE THAT CAN STOP HIM!

GET WHOEVER YOOOAAA!

I NEED ALL OF YOUR FILES ON THE CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OF HYDRA OPERATIVES.

I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!

BLAM

FWUMP

PWING

$#&%!

THAT ROOM.

ARMOR, ACCESS THAT COMPUTER.

THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS, FRANK.

WHAT DO YOU NEED? A CD-ROM? WHERE DO I PUT IT?

THIS COMPUTER DOES NOT HAVE A DISC DRIVE OR EXTERNAL PORT OF ANY SORT. YOU WILL NEED TO CONNECT ME DIRECTLY TO THE TERMINAL SO I CAN ACCESS THEIR SERVERS.

DOWNLOAD ALL THE FILES OFF THEIR SERVERS... AND ERASE ANY FILES THEY HAVE ON ME WHILE YOU'RE IN THERE.

HOW LONG IS THIS GOING TO TAKE?

ALL DONE.

FWOOOSH

THEY ARE AMASSING HEAVY ORDNANCE AND ARTILLERY IN THE HALLWAY.

REMIND ME AGAIN, WHAT DOES THE "I" IN C.I.A. STAND FOR?

INTELLIGENCE.

S.W.A.T.

OH, YEAH. FUNNY.

HE JUST LEFT NOW. I'M BEING TOLD HE WAS ASKING ABOUT FILES ON HYDRA.

SIR, YOU NEED TO RUN.

NO. I DON'T THINK I WILL.

FOUR HOURS LATER.

THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME. HE'S NOT COMING HERE.

ZEMO SAID HE MIGHT.

ZEMO'S DRUNK MOST OF THE TIME THESE DAYS. CASTLE DOESN'T HAVE THE BRASS TO COME HERE AND...UH...

I DON'T KNOW. YOU EVER HEAR AGENT REMENDER'S STORY ABOUT THE PUNISHER, DAVE? IT'S @!#$%*& CRAZY.

DAVE?

DAVE?!

DAVE'S DEAD.

FWOOSH

THE BLOW

STAND YOUR--

OPEN FIRE!

AHHH!

FWASSH

VEHICLES ARE LEAVING THE FACILITY IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION.

SHOULD I TAKE SOME ACTION TO DISABLE THE VEHICLES?

NO. I'LL HANDLE THEM.

FWOOOOSH

FWOOOSH

P-PLEASE... HAVE MERCY ON--

BOOM

BOOM

SO... THE PRODIGAL SON RETURNS AND KILLS EVERYONE HE SEES. IS THAT THE IDEA, FRANK?

IT SEEMS TO ME IT WASN'T SO LONG AGO WE WERE ON THE SAME SIDE.

BLAH BLAH BLAH

AND NOW I HAVE TO PUT UP A FORCE FIELD WHEN YOU COME VISIT.

IT'S A SHAME, BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S ME THAT'S CHANGED.

TEA?

I BET YOU HOPED I'D RUN.

I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU DO. THAT FORCE FIELD WON'T HOLD FOREVER, ZEMO.

HIYA, FRANKIE. THIS IS GONNA BE FUN.

NO, IT WON'T. THAT'S WHY I ALWAYS HAVE A BACKUP PLAN.

MULTIPLE CONTACTS ENTERING BEHIND US.

SUIT SLOWS YOU DOWN, FRANKIE.

HYDRA GAVE ME AND TASKMASTER THIS NEW GEAR TO DEAL WITH YOU. OUR ONLY RULE WAS IT CAN'T SLOW US DOWN.

BEEP

BEEP BEEP

AND HERE YOU ARE, LUMBERING AROUND LIKE A @#$% DYING ELEPHANT.

GOT A SHINY NEW TOY AND YOU FORGOT WHAT MADE YOU SCARY, FRANKIE.

BWOOOM

PEOPLE ARE GOING TO SAY THAT I DID THIS FOR THE MONEY, BUT FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE...

MAJOR DAMAGE SUSTAINED.

...I'M GONNA THINK ABOUT THIS MOMENT AND...SMILE.

CLANG

AH, YOU'RE A TOUGH NUT TO CRACK.

BUT I'M A TOUGH NUTCRACK--

@#!$.

WHAM

SIZZ

THUNK

HA! I'VE BEEN WANTING TO HAVE THIS FIGHT FOR SO LONG.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LIKE HOW IT ENDS.

BANG

WE'LL SEE.

DAMN. I'LL GIVE IT TO STARK. HE MAKES TOUGH %#@$, FRANKIE.

I HAVE A STARK TECH BLENDER THAT I PUT THROUGH HELL. STILL WORKS.

THUMP

00:03

LET'S FIND OUT IF HE PUT AS MUCH CARE IN KEEPING YOU SAFE FROM BRAIN DAMAGE AS HE DOES MAKING SURE I GET MY MORNING SMOOTHIE.

BEEP
BEEP

YOU, TOO.

OH @#*%! GET OFF--

BOOOM

DON'T LET HIM DO THAT AGAIN, FRANK.

I WON'T.

GHOST! STOP HIM!

ALWAYS THE BRIDESMAID, NEVER THE BRIDE.

THREAT BEHIND US.

I'M SO HAPPY TO BE FINALLY NOTICED.

JUST LET ME FRESHEN UP FIRST, SAILOR.

WHERE IS HE?

HE HAS GONE INTANGIBLE AND DISAPPEARED OFF OUR SENSORS.

RECALIBRATING TO LOOK FOR--

BZZZZZTT

.ERROR TYP
1. SYSO101TEM
.C 101PRO ISED.
00

WEL O TO STA K PERATING S EMS STA T-UP OGRAM.

THUMP

WELL, THAT CERTAINLY TOOK A TURN, DIDN'T IT? ALL YOUR ADORING FANS ARE GOING TO BE UPSET.

GIVE ME A SECOND...I'LL FIX IT FOR THEM.

WHERE YOU GOING, BIG MAN?

THUNK

I'M GONNA BE FAMOUS FOR THIS ONE.

HNN.

PATIENCE, CROSSBONES. YOU NEED TO LEARN TO SAVOR THESE LITTLE VICTORIES. I'VE FOUND THAT THE BIG ONES ARE MUCH HARDER TO HOLD ONTO.

WOULDN'T YOU AGREE, FRANK?

CRNCH

IT WASN'T LONG AGO THAT YOU AND I MARCHED UNDER THE SAME FLAG.

ME, BECAUSE HYDRA IS MY LIFE'S WORK AS A MAN WHO BELIEVES IN A BETTER WORLD.

YOU, BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO BE ON THE WINNING TEAM FOR ONCE. CORRECT?

OH, THAT'S MY NEW PROFILE PIC FOR SURE.

BUT YOU TURNED ON US, FRANK. CAPTAIN AMERICA...THE REAL ONE...***SUPREME LEADER ROGERS*** GETS MOMENTARILY LOCKED AWAY AND YOU THOUGHT THE WAR WAS OVER.

SAY CHEESE.

CLICK

TO YOU, HYDRA NATION MAY SEEM AS DEAD AS YOUR DISGUSTING LITTLE CHILDREN, BUT I ASSURE YOU IT IS VERY MUCH ALIVE.

AND IT IS ABOUT TO MAKE A MIRACULOUS RECOVERY.

PTOOOO

CHARMING TO THE END, FRANK. CROSSBONES, NOW YOU CAN $@#% KILL HIM.

I HOPE THIS HURTS LIKE--

THUNK

HISSSS

I ASSUME OUR INVITATIONS TO THIS PARTY GOT LOST IN THE MAIL?

THAT'S YOUR ENTRANCE LINE?

NOT NOW, HAWKEYE.

I JUST WISH WE MADE A COOLER ENTRANCE. THAT'S ALL. WE CAN WORK ON IT.

GREAT. SUPER HEROES. I BETTER BE GETTING PAID--

SCHUNK

AGGGH!

BOTH OF YOU NEED TO STOP TALKING.

YOU'RE TOTALLY RIGHT, NAT...

BUT SERIOUSLY, WOULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN BETTER IF HE'D SAID SOMETHING LIKE, "WHOA! ARE YOU GUYS MAKING A MOVIE?"

WHAM

THAT'S NOT BETTER, CLINT.

YES, IT IS!

NO, IT'S DEFINITELY NOT.

NOT GONNA LISTEN TO YOU, BUCKY. YOU'RE LITERALLY THE LEAST FUNNY PERSON I KNOW.

AND I KNOW NATASHA.

YOU ALL TALK TOO MUCH.

ACK!

KA-CHOOM

WHAT THE HELL, CASTLE?! I HAD THAT! YOU CAN'T JUST KILL--

KA-CHOOM

SHUT UP AND STOP HIM BEFORE--

SZZZZT

HE DOES THAT.

WHERE ARE THEY?

WE NEED LIGHT, NOW!

I'M WORKING ON IT!

IT TAKES ME A SECOND TO FIGURE OUT WHICH ONE IS THE FLARE ARROW. SORRY.

WHERE'D ZEMO AND GHOST GO?

WHILE YOU ALL WERE HELPING HUNGER GAMES WORK ON HIS ACT, THEY ESCAPED.

CRAZY THAT YOU KNOW WHAT *THE HUNGER GAMES* IS. AND YOU'RE WELCOME FOR SAVING YOUR LIFE, BY THE WAY. WANTED TO SAY THAT BEFORE I FORGOT.

WE NEED TO SPREAD OUT AND GO AFTER THEM. I'M GOING TO SET A PERIMETER--

THEY'RE GONE.

YOU DON'T KNOW THAT.

YES, I DO. GUYS LIKE THIS GIVE YOU ONE SHOT. AND WHEN YOU BLOW IT, THEY ARE IN THE WIND. THAT'S HOW THEY LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO BECOME GUYS LIKE THIS.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

PACKING UP MY ARMOR.

IT'S NOT *YOUR* ARMOR.

I DON'T SEE THE GUY WHO OWNS IT ASKING FOR IT BACK ANYTIME SOON.

CUTE. BUT MAYBE YOU CAN JUST ACKNOWLEDGE YOU OWE US ONE, LET US TAKE THE ARMOR, AND WE'LL LET YOU SNEAK BACK INTO THE SEWER OR WHEREVER YOU LIVE.

I GOT WORK TO DO.

THAT'S...INSANE. YOU'RE INSANE. NOBODY CARES THAT YOU WANT TO UPGRADE YOUR MURDER ARSENAL. WHY DO YOU THINK WE'D ***EVER*** LET YOU LEAVE WITH THAT MUCH ARTILLERY?

FRANKLY, WE SHOULD BE PUTTING YOU IN HANDCUFFS RIGHT NOW. SO PLEASE, GO AHEAD AND TELL ME WHY YOU THINK YOU'RE LEAVING WITH THAT ARMOR.

I STILL GOT WORK TO DO.

HYDRA IS ABOUT TO COME BACK. I'M GOING TO TAKE THIS SUIT AND MURDER EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM.

LOOK, NICK FURY SENT US IN HERE SPECIFICALLY TO GET THIS ARMOR BACK. SAVING YOUR LIFE WAS JUST A ***REAL FUN*** BY-PRODUCT.

BUT WE JUST RISKED ALL OUR BUTTS ON THIS TO MAKE SURE FURY GETS HIS LITTLE TOY BACK. SO I CAN'T LET YOU WALK OUT OF HERE WITH IT.

CAN'T STOP ME EITHER, ROBIN HOOD.

IS THAT RIGHT?! 'CUZ I THINK--

ZAAAAAP

NAT?! WHAT THE HELL?

ZAAAAAP

WHAT'S FURY'S PLAY HERE?

THAT WAS MY PLAY.

NOW PACK UP THAT ARMOR.

WE'VE GOT MEN TO KILL.

HEY, GUYS? YOU CAN'T DO... WHATEVER IT IS YOU'RE DOING...IN HERE. MY MANAGER SAID YOU HAVE TO GO.

GRINGO

PETE'S TACOS

GRINGO

JIM

WHAT'S YOUR NAME, KID?

UH...JIM. JIM, SIR.

JIM, THEY DON'T PAY YOU ENOUGH TO DO THIS.

WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK BEHIND THAT COUNTER AND TELL YOUR MANAGER TO COME OUT AND SPEAK FOR HIMSELF, IF HE'S GOT THE BRASS.

HI THERE, JIM. A PIECE OF ADVICE? LOOK AT THESE MEN. THESE ARE NOT MEN YOU WANT TO TELL WHAT THEY CAN AND CAN'T DO, OKAY?

YOU GO BACK AND TELL YOUR MANAGER WE PAID $500 TO RENT THESE TABLES. AND THERE'S $500 IN THERE FOR YOUR TROUBLES, TOO. OKAY?

O-OKAY.

AND IF YOU CALL THE COPS, WE'LL KNOW, JIM.

WHICH ONE HAS NO SOUR CREAM?

THEY ALL HAVE SOUR CREAM.

BUT I SAID NO SOUR CREAM?

AND I IGNORED YOU.

HEY, SMALL WONDER, YOU WANT TO HELP ME FIX THE SUIT OR YOU WANT TO KEEP CRYING ABOUT YOUR DAIRY INTAKE?

HELP YOU FIX THE SUIT YOU STOLE FROM MY DEAD FRIEND SO YOU CAN CONTINUE *SERIAL KILLING?*

YES.

I'M NOT A TECH GUY.

DON'T YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF ROBOT VIRUS THING TAKING OVER YOUR BODY? CAN THAT HELP?

ROBOT VIRUS? ARE YOU... DO YOU THINK I'M *CABLE?*

LISTEN, FRANK, YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE BUCKY AND I THINK YOUR GOALS AND OURS MIGHT OVERLAP.

THE LEAST WE ASK IS THAT YOU SHOW HIM SOME RESPECT.

I RESPECT HIM.

I JUST DON'T LIKE HIM.

WE CAN GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS RIGHT NOW AND SEE HOW FAR YOU MAKE IT WITH 185 LBS. OF BROKEN ARMOR AND EVERY COP, CROOK, AND SUPER HERO IN THE COUNTRY GUNNING FOR YOU.

KID, I'VE BEEN DOING FINE BY MYSELF SINCE YOU WERE STILL PUTTING BULLETS IN INNOCENT PEOPLE FOR THE SOVIETS.

SO YOU *DO* KNOW WHO I AM!

KID, IF YOU WANT TO MEASURE THEM, TAKE YOUR METAL %$#! OUT AND--

ENOUGH! PLAY NICE OR WE'RE DONE PLAYING, FRANK.

CALM DOWN. I WASN'T REALLY GONNA UNZIP ON THE KID.

CAN YOU PLAY NICE?

FOR YOU? SURE.

BUT IT'S MY TURN FOR QUESTIONS. WHY'D YOU BREAK FROM FURY'S PLAYBOOK TONIGHT?

WHAT'S IT MATTER TO YOU WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO?

BECAUSE I KNOW FURY WELL ENOUGH TO KNOW HE HAS HIS FINGERS IN EVERYTHING.

AND I KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT BOTH OF YOU TO KNOW HOW OFTEN YOU GET FINGERED.

ENOUGH! WE DON'T NEED TO PUT UP WITH THIS SOCIOPATH'S @#$%.

BUCKY, WAIT.

THANKS FOR THE BURRITO. *PERFECT* AMOUNT OF SOUR CREAM.

WE BROKE FROM FURY BECAUSE HE THINKS SPIES WILL SOLVE ALL THE WORLD'S PROBLEMS.

WHAT ARE YOU?

WE'RE FIXERS.

DON'T SEE THE DIFFERENCE.

HE STAYS IN THE SHADOWS AND MAKES SURE HIS HANDS APPEAR CLEAN.

AND YOU?

"WE GET DIRTY."

YOU WANT TO MAKE RIGHT FOR YOUR TIME IN HYDRA?

THIS IS STEP ONE.

CAN I TRUST YOUR MAN OVER THERE?

WELL, YOU DID SUCH A GOOD JOB GETTING HIM ON YOUR SIDE.

HE KNOWS...WE *BOTH* KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE BEEN TRICKED INTO WORKING FOR THE WRONG SIDE.

ALL YOUR TESTOSTERONE ASIDE, HE WANTS TO SEE YOU MAKE RIGHT.

AND YOU?

I'VE GOT A SCORE TO SETTLE AND YOU SEEM LIKE THE FASTEST WAY THERE.

LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE ELSE IS GETTING THERE FIRST.

GET TO THE GUARD TOWER!

ENTRY TEAMS, GET TO THE DOOR! EVERYONE ELSE, SET UP THE PERIMETER!

WE'RE FIFTY MILES FROM THE NEAREST REINFORCEMENTS SO WE HAVE SOME TIME, BUT LOOK ALIVE--

WHAT THE HELL?!

BLAM

THE DOOR CONTROLS ARE IN THE TOWER. THEY'RE ALREADY INSIDE!

IT'S BULLETPROOF, FRANK. YOU NEED TO GET ME IN THERE. NOW.

HAIL HYD---

NAT, THEY'RE GETTING IN! CLOSE THE DOOR!

GOT IT.

WATCH OUT! IT'S CLOSING!

SLAM

WAIT! LET US IN!

OPEN UP!

AHH! GET IT OFF!

YOU BOYS LOST?

YARD'S CLEAR. OPEN THE DOOR AGAIN, NAT.

I CAN'T! SYSTEM'S ON LOCKDOWN.

YOU CAN'T GET THROUGH THAT. THE DOOR IS 18 INCHES OF VIBRANIUM-REINFORCED STEEL.

NO PROBLEM.

WALL'S NOT.

STAY BACK!

WHERE IS HE?

...

W-WHO?

ALL THE WAY DOWN.

STAY HIDDEN. WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS.

HEY, WAR MACHINE! YOUR BOY STARK--

I'M NOT WAR MACHINE.

FWOOSH

ARRGGHHH!

ATTENTION, INMATES. THIS IS YOUR NEW WARDEN, **BARON ZEMO**, SPEAKING. I WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW I'VE REVIEWED YOUR CASES...

THIS IS NOT GOOD.

NOT GOOD AT ALL.

CLICK-WHIRRRRRRRRRRR

...AND I'VE DECIDED TO GRANT YOU ALL EARLY RELEASE. AS A BONUS, I'VE SHUT OFF ALL YOUR POWER INHIBITORS. HAVE FUN.

I WAS HOPING THIS WOULD HAPPEN.

HOLD THE LINE!

488 HOSTILES DETECTED.

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

WE HAVE A PLAN FOR THIS?!

I'VE PLANNED FOR THIS MY WHOLE LIFE.

467.

THEY'RE NOT STOPPING!

EVERY PIECE OF SCUM IN HERE DREAMS ABOUT GETTING A SHOT AT ME.

IT'S TIME FOR THEM TO WAKE UP.

CIRCLE UP!
THEY'RE FLANKING US!
IF ANYONE'S GOT A PLAN BESIDES "KILL THEM ALL BEFORE THEY KILL US," NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME.
441.
FRANK, WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE. NOW.

ONLY WAY TO GO IS UP.

TAKE THE SECOND LEVEL AND MAINTAIN THE HIGH GROUND. IF--

GAH!

WARNING! FLIGHT IS OBSTRUCTED.

FRANK!

HOW'D YOU THINK THIS WAS GONNA END, FORTRESS? I'LL DO THIS ALL NIGHT.

I ADVISE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL.

NOT SURE THAT'S POSSIBLE RIGHT NOW, ARMOR.

OKAY, THAT'S ENOUGH!

ZZAAAP

HEY THERE, FRANK...

OH, %$!#.

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT NOWHERE TO RUN THIS TIME.

YOU HEARD CAPTAIN MARVEL. WE PUT THIS DOWN FAST AND GET THEM BACK IN THEIR CELLS. ALIVE.

WE'RE NOT HIM.

FRANK, WE'RE CUT OFF UP HERE. YOU NEED TO GET TO ZEMO AND STOP HIM.

I'M ON MY WAY.

HEY THERE! I'M PRETTY SURE I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO LET YOU LEAVE. CAPTAIN'S ORDERS.

OW! COME ON!

IF ANY STRAY FELONS GET IN OUR WAY, I EXPECT YOU TO DISPATCH THEM QUICKLY.

YES, SIR, BARON ZEMO, SIR.

THIS WAY.

OUR TIME WILL BE LIMITED. IS OUR ESCAPE ROUTE SECURE?

YES, SIR.

GOOD, BECAUSE IT LOOKS LIKE...

BANG BANG

...WE'RE HERE.

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, *SUPREME COMMANDER ROGERS.*

YOU AS WELL, ZEMO.

HAIL HYDRA.

CAPTAIN DANVERS IS STILL DEALING WITH THE RIOT.

GOOD. HOW ARE MY SYSTEMS?

COOLING SYSTEM IS OPERATING AT--

I MEANT THE WEAPONS SYSTEMS.

FULLY FUNCTIONAL.

GOOD.

WOULD YOU LIKE--

WARNING! INCOMING PROJECTILE! BRACE FOR IMPACT!

WHAT?! FROM WHERE?!

HEY THERE, FRANK. WHERE THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?

CRASH

U.S. GOVERNMENT BLACK SITE PRISON.

PLAYTIME'S OVER, FRANK.

I'VE GOT NO PROBLEM WITH YOU, STARK.

CAN'T SAY THE SAME THERE, PAL. YOU'RE WEARING SOMETHING THAT BELONGS TO MY FRIEND.

HE WASN'T USING IT.

CUTE. HERE'S THE THING, THOUGH.

I HAD MY WAY, YOU WOULDN'T EVEN BE ALLOWED TO LOOK AT ANYTHING OF RHODEY'S. YOU'RE A SERIAL KILLER. YOU BACKED HYDRA.

IRONIC, THEN, THAT I'M THE ONE HERE TO STOP HYDRA FROM FREEING THEIR LEADER, BUT YOU CAME HERE TO STOP ME.

I'M ONE OF THE WORLD'S PRE-EMINENT GENIUSES. I CAN MULTITASK.

LET'S FIND OUT.

LET'S SEE YOU STOP ME AND SAVE A ROOM FULL OF SCUM FROM BEING BURNT ALIVE, GENIUS.

WE'RE NOT DONE.

YES, WE ARE.

EXCUSE

WHAT'S THAT EXPLOSION?

BOOOOOM

IF I HAD TO GUESS, I'D SAY THAT WAS THE PUNISHER.

FRANK CAME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE TO SEE ME. INTERESTING. HOW PISSED IS HE?

PRETTY PISSED.

GHOST, HOW DO WE STOP HIM?

WE DON'T.

BRAKA BRAKA BRAKA

CRASH

SKRAK

SKRAK

SKRAK

UHHH!

SKRUNCH

STAY BACK, YOU MISERABLE PIECE OF--

SCHLICK

HELLO AGAIN, FRANK. I GUESS YOU CAME TO FINISH THIS. FAIR ENOUGH...

...LET'S FINISH IT.

BUT JUST SO YOU KNOW, I'VE GOT A FANCY SUIT NOW, TOO. YOU MET GHOST BEFORE, REMEMBER?

YOU KNOW, I NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHAT ANYONE SAW IN YOU. A SOCIOPATH WITH AN ARSENAL? I'M SURROUNDED BY THOSE EVERY SINGLE DAY.

BUT WHEN I WITNESSED WHAT YOU COULD DO IN THAT ARMOR, I FINALLY UNDERSTOOD WHAT THE SUPREME COMMANDER SAW.

IT'S YOUR ***DETERMINATION*** HE LIKED. AND IT ***IS*** IMPRESSIVE.

IT'S A SHAME YOU ABANDONED US. YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN A FINE SOLDIER.

BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, HYDRA DOESN'T HAVE MUCH USE FOR TRAITORS.

AND ONCE YOU TAKE AWAY THE SUIT, I'D TAKE A LEGION OF ***LOYAL*** PSYCHOPATHS OVER ONE DETERMINED ONE ANY DAY.

SO I MADE GHOST LEARN THIS NEW TRICK TO MAKE SURE I COULD BE THE ONE TO TAKE AWAY THAT STUPID $@%& SUIT MYSELF...

KZZZZ

INTRUDER DETECTED. SYSTEMS OVERLOADING.

I KNOW.

DEFENSE PROTOCOLS BEING--

AHHH!

ZZZZ

ZZAP

DON'T-- HRRRR--

THUD

DON'T... UNDERESTIMATE... DETERMINATION...

WEAPONS SYSTEMS OFFLINE.

DON'T NEED THEM.

WAIT... WAIT...

CRUNCH

WARNING!

INCOMING--

--THREAT.

OOOF!

WORD OF ADVICE, CASTLE? NEXT TIME YOU WANT TO COLLAPSE A BUILDING ON ME...

...MAKE IT A SKYSCRAPER.

YOU'LL BE HAPPY TO KNOW THAT YOUR LITTLE COLLAPSING TUNNEL STUNT EXTINGUISHED THE FIRE, BY THE WAY. NOBODY WAS--

CLANG

ALL SYSTEMS RESTORED. PLEASE DON'T ELECTROCUTE US AGAIN.

BACK OFF, STARK.

AND STAY OUT OF MY WAY.

NOT SO FAST.

VVV

VAAM

FRANK? I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU, BUT THIS ENDS NOW. UNDERSTOOD?

YES.

WHOA! NOT WHAT I MEANT!

SMASH

LET'S FINISH THIS, ZEMO.

NOT...DONE YET...YOU HYDRA %$!#.

UUUNNGH.

LET'S GO, ZEMO. LIVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY.

STAY DOWN, IRON MAN.

RUUU

UMMBBLE

BRAKABRAKABRAKABRAKA

ENOUGH.

WHAT IS THIS #$!@?

YOU GET ONE WARNING, CASTLE. STEP OUT OF THE ARMOR.

YOU WANT IT? TAKE IT FROM ME.

WEAPONS WERE INEFFECTIVE.

YEAH. GOT THAT.

STOMP

ARGGH!

THEY SAY FORCE IS THE ONLY THING YOU UNDERSTAND.

I WANT TO BELIEVE THAT'S NOT TRUE.

I DON'T WANT TO BE DISAPPOINTED IN YOU AGAIN, CASTLE.

VRRRRRRMMMMM

DO I KNOW YOU?

I HOPE SO...

SSSSSSSH

YOU'RE WEARING MY CLOTHES.

LIEUTENANT CASTLE.

COLONEL RHODES.

THAT'S NOT YOUR SUIT.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE DONE WITH IT.

I THOUGHT SO, TOO.

BUT HERE WE ARE.

YOU'VE BEEN OUT HERE BANGING UP MY FRIENDS, MESSING UP MY SUIT. I CAN'T HAVE THAT.

THAT SUIT IS BIGGER THAN ME AND YOU. IT MEANS A LOT OF THINGS TO A LOT OF PEOPLE. AND THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING WITH IT.

I'VE BEEN USING IT TO CLEAN UP THE #$!% THAT ALL OF YOU NEVER DEALT WITH.

YOU NEVER REALLY GOT IT, DID YOU?

WHAT'S ALWAYS SEPARATED US FROM THEM?

S.W.A.T.

IT'S NOT ABOUT HAVING THE FORCE TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT, CASTLE.

IT'S ABOUT HAVING THE RESTRAINT NOT TO.

YOU CAN CLING TO THAT "MIGHT MAKES RIGHT" NONSENSE IF YOU WANT, BUT I FOUND OUT IN THE WORST WAY THERE'S ALWAYS SOMEONE MIGHTIER OUT THERE.

AND THEY'LL DO WHATEVER THEIR HEARTS DESIRE. BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT *BAD GUYS* DO.

AND THE *GOOD GUYS* WILL CHOOSE TO STAND AGAINST THAT.

NOW, I COULD HAVE PULLED YOU OUT OF THAT SUIT MYSELF... BUT I CHOSE NOT TO.

BECAUSE I KNOW THAT SOMEWHERE IN THAT ARMOR IS A MAN WHO KNOWS HE'S TAKEN ANOTHER MAN'S LEGACY.

EVERYTHING I WORKED FOR...WHAT I GAVE MY LIFE FOR... YOU TWISTED IT. YOU DID WHATEVER YOU WANTED.

BUT I KNOW YOU AREN'T THAT MAN, FRANK. I KNOW YOU AREN'T THEM.

HSSSSS

HSSSSS

THANK YOU.

I KNEW YOU'D MAKE THE RIGHT CALL, SOLDIER.

HANDS UP! DON'T MOVE, DIRTBAG!

ON THE GROUND!

SIR, THE PRISON IS SECURE. NO SIGN OF ZEMO OR GHOST.

IS THIS ALL NECESSARY, FURY?

YES, IT IS.

YOU MISSED A FEW THINGS, RHODES. YOUR NEW FRIEND HERE ALMOST STARTED A NUCLEAR WAR.

YEAH. SHAME THERE WEREN'T S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS WHO COULD HAVE DEALT WITH THAT SITUATION.

YOU ALL FIGURE OUT HOW HE FOUND MY SUIT YET?

WE'RE LOOKING INTO IT.

SWAT

GOOD TRY, FRANK. YOU ALMOST GOT ME.

ZEMO AND I HAD A REAL GOOD TALK BEFORE HE LEFT, BY THE WAY. WE HAVE SOME BIG PLANS.

HE DOESN'T THINK MUCH OF YOU, BUT I HOPE YOU KNOW I DO. AND THERE'S STILL ROOM ON THE TEAM IF YOU WANT TO COME BACK.

I'M SORRY IT HAD TO END THIS WAY, FRANK. I REALLY AM.

I KNOW YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS, BUT I LIKE YOU.

THERE WAS A CHANCE FOR YOU AND ME TO DO GOOD WORK TOGETHER. WE COULD HAVE BEEN ON THE SAME TEAM.

BUT YOU HAD TO GO AND DO YOUR OWN THING. ONLY PLAY FOR FRANK CASTLE. AND I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN.

THAT'S WHY YOU LOST TODAY, FRANK. AND I WON.

FBI

TWO DOZEN PRISON GUARDS WERE KILLED BY HYDRA AND RIOTING CONVICTS.

GHOST ESCAPED. BARON ZEMO ESCAPED.

THE SUPREME COMMANDER IS STILL ALIVE.

AND *YOU* CONSIDER TONIGHT A WIN.

THAT'S WHY I'M NOT ON YOUR TEAM.

SLAM

I LIED. I &@#% HATE HIM.

I'M NOT TOO HOT ON YOU RIGHT NOW, EITHER.

SIXTEEN MINUTES LATER.

IT KEEPS REROUTING US TO THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE. SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THIS PIECE OF CRAP.

I'M TELLING YOU, JUST USE A MAP.

SCREEECH

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SLAMMING ON THE BRAKES FOR?

LOOK.

HELLO THERE. WE'RE GOING TO NEED YOU TO OPEN UP THE BACK OF YOUR TRUCK.

YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING WE NEED BACK THERE.

THE WAR BEGINS ANEW IN THE PUNISHER #1.

Stefano Landini

No. 224, page 2 art

Stefano Landini

No. 224, page 20 art

THE PUNISHER IS BACK IN THE U.S. OF A.!

FRANK CASTLE brings the War Machine armor home to renew his one-man war on crime. Now nothing can stand in his way! Well, unless Captain Marvel and the other heroes have something to say about it! For with bigger guns, Frank has a taste for bigger game. After being used by the evil Steve Rogers during Secret Empire, he's targeting what's left of the Hydra Nation. First on Frank's hit list: Baron Zemo! Unfortunately, Zemo knows a thing or two about recruiting masterfully evil associates, and the Punisher is in for one of the fights of his life – but he has a surprising ally in his corner! Frank's actions in the War Machine armor affect some people pretty personally – especially Tony Stark! Suit up for the ultimate armored showdown!

COLLECTING ***PUNISHER (2016) #224-228*** – BY MATTHEW ROSENBERG, STEFANO LANDINI, GUIU VILANOVA AND LEE LOUGHRIDGE.

PARENTAL ADVISORY

ZONE